

horizontally disposed, annular plate 102 which is molded (or otherwise manufactured) unitary with the skirt 101 and reception means 103.

In contrast, the embodiments illustrated in FIGS. 5 and 6 show an attachment ring 10 which is a "multi-piece" structure having a piece which is a skirt 101, a piece which is a reception means 103, and a piece which is an intervening elastic means or spring 112. In the embodiments illustrated in FIGS. 5 and 6, the attachment device ring 10 is thus a "multi-piece" assembly compared to the "unitary" attachment device ring 10 in the embodiments illustrated in FIGS. 1-4.

However, claim 1 does not distinguish between a "unitary" attachment device ring 10 and a "multi-piece" attachment device ring 10. Claim 1 is clearly generic in that the scope of claim 1 covers all of the embodiments, and in particular claim 1 covers embodiments which avoid deformation of the attachment device ring skirt while providing a flexible connection internally in the attachment device ring which undergoes any deformation needed to compensate or correct for any variation in the height of the container neck (as explained on page 2 of the specification).

Accordingly, it is believed that claim 1 is generic, and the Examiner is requested to withdraw his determination that claim 1 is not generic.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 5 of page 7 with the following rewritten paragraph:

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--The reception sleeve 12 defines a clip-on housing 103 which forms reception means for the body 20 of a distribution device 2, for example a pump.

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Conventionally, the housing 103 is designed to clip on a projecting reinforcement 21 formed by the body 20. The housing 103 allows the passage of an actuating rod 22, on which a thruster 23 is fitted. In addition, the sleeve 12 forms a plate 102 which extends radially outwards. The flange 111 extends above the plate 102 of the bushing

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